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eleventh chapter, dealing with the causes that produced 4 Geo. III., c. 15, seems to show beyond doubt that "experiences during the war", and not a change of economic theory, formed their basis (p. 228). In the revenue acts of 1764 and 1765, which are the subject of chapter XIII., Mr. Beer returns to the fiscal motive with which he began, and the concluding chapter, on colonial opposition, well brings out the fiscal character of the Sugar Act of 1764, and its effect in preparing New England to resist the more famous Stamp Act of the following year.

Of the book as a whole its author justly says that its focus of interest is the British Empire, and not the rise of the American nation; that it is on its positive side a portrayal of British policy, and only on its negative side an account of the preliminaries of the American Revolution, and hence, if viewed as a study in American history, it is incomplete. Nonetheless it constitutes, in the reviewer's opinion, the most substantial contribution to an understanding of the causes of the American Revolution that has appeared since Mellen Chamberlain wrote his chapter for the sixth volume of Winsor's *Narrative and Critical History*, twenty years ago; while upon its own direct subject it is not only unrivalled but unapproached by any one.

Passing to more detailed criticisms, it is obviously a matter of taste whether one shall agree with Mr. Beer that the Molasses Act of 1733 "was not an integral part of the colonial system proper" (p. 291). It was, indeed, at strife with the purpose of making a market in New England for British woolens; but in that circumstance it is possible to see not an aberrancy from the colonial system proper, but only an exceptionally clear manifestation of that internal conflict of interests by which the colonial system proper was rent at last. It is also to be regretted that Mr. Beer has not increased the usefulness of his very full notes by making references to the *New York Colonial Documents* and similar works, when, as often happens, they contain papers used by him, but concealed from common knowledge under citations like "B. T. N. Y. 34 Mn8". These are, however, small matters, whose enumeration can but serve to emphasize the general impeccability of the work.

C. H. H.

Reformversuche und Sturz des Absolutismus in Frankreich (1774-1788). Von HANS GLAGAU, ao. Professor a. d. Universität Marburg. (München und Berlin. R. Oldenbourg. 1908. Pp. viii, 396.)

"IN its origin, the revolution was no movement in favor of political liberty, but rather an agitation in behalf of reform and order", and among the leaders in this early period, "undoubtedly the Physiocrats played the most important role. It was they who enticed the monarchy

into the path of reform and, as the determined opponents of corporations, summoned it to the struggle against the privileged classes and privileges, preached with passionate enthusiasm the necessity of a revolution from the top down that should overthrow all class barriers, sweep away the remains of the feudal constitution and make of France a modern, unified state" (p. 9). De Tocqueville (*L'Ancien Régime*, p. 264) called attention to the importance of the work of the Physiocrats, but did not develop his theme. Cherest (*La Chute de l'Ancien Régime*), concerned with the fall of the old government, began his work with a study of the Assembly of the Notables. The latter part of Glagau's volume overlaps Cherest's first volume, the Assembly of the Notables entering into both, but the conceptions underlying the two syntheses are quite different. In the synthesis of Professor Glagau, the assembly marks the failure of the monarchical government to reorganize France, sweeping away privileges and establishing a strong central power with equality before the law, but with no new responsibility on the part of the government or means of control on the part of the French people; for Cherest, the assembly was the beginning of the Revolutionary crisis. The treatment of the Assembly of the Notables by Glagau, resting as it does upon a complete knowledge of the printed and manuscript sources, is much more satisfactory than that by Cherest.

The purpose of Professor Glagau was to give an adequate account of this very important attempt of the old government to solve the reform problem and to show that its failure was due to the opposition of the classes threatened by the loss of their privileges and of the nation that feared the increased power the reforms would put into the hands of an irresponsible government. An introductory chapter on the programme of the Physiocrats is followed by studies on the ministries of Turgot, Necker and Calonne. The reforms of the first were based on the destruction of privilege and the strengthening of the central power; Necker's plan rested on reform combined with decentralization and would have weakened the central government; Calonne borrowed from both of his predecessors, but followed Turgot more closely than Necker. Although the volume of Glagau is a monograph and its aim a correction of perspective rather than a study of detail, the new material that he had at his disposal and a more careful interpretation and combination of the old led him to many new and important conclusions. The most important, perhaps, is the explanation for the fall of Turgot found in the difference of opinion between himself and the king on the advisability of supporting the colonists against England.

The new material utilized in the preparation of the volume consists of the unpublished reports of the Austrian ambassador Mercy (archives in Vienna) and the *mémoires*, letters and other documents in the Paris archives. An appendix of sixty pages contains eight *mémoires* of Calonne on the Assembly of the Notables addressed to

the king and the queen and hitherto unpublished. It is to be regretted that Dr. Glagau could not carry out his original intention of publishing the very valuable despatches of the Austrian ambassador.

In thoroughness of criticism, largeness of synthesis and lucidity of exposition, Glagau's work reminds one of that of Ranke. It is certainly one of the most noteworthy additions to the literature of the French Revolution in the past twenty-five years.

FRED MORROW FLING.

Duchesse de Dino (puis Duchesse de Talleyrand et de Sagan): Chronique de 1831 à 1862. Publiée avec des Annotations et un Index Biographique par la Princesse RADZIWILL née Castellane. Volume I., 1831-1835. (Paris: Plon-Nourrit et Cie. 1909. Pp. iii, 461. Troisième édition.)

THIS *Chronique* is, in a sense, a continuation of the volume of *Souvenirs* of the Duchesse de Dino, which appeared a few months ago, and which embodied the recollections of her early years up to the time of her marriage in 1809. The editor intimates that there are no memoirs to cover the interval between 1809 and 1831, the date at which the *Chronique* begins. This volume is made up of notes recorded by Mme. de Dino from day to day and of selections from her long correspondence with Alphonse de Bacourt. Somewhat more than half of it is given to the residence in London during the mission of her uncle, Prince Talleyrand, although there are no entries for the first period of the residence. The remainder of the volume is concerned with people and politics in France after Talleyrand had declined to return to London. The first part, therefore, supplements Pallain's *Ambassade de Talleyrand à Londres (1830-1834)*, and the second the Comtesse de Mirabeau's *Prince de Talleyrand et la Maison d'Orléans*, but it is the *petits faits*, often important for the comprehension of the personal element in situations, which Mme. de Dino records, although one catches echoes of graver discussions.

The uncertainties of Louis Philippe's position in France find surprising proof in notes indicating that during the summer of 1831, and as late as September 21, Talleyrand and his niece were thinking of Madeira as a refuge. Her impression of the king's moderation and firmness, especially in dealing with questions of foreign policy, became admiration. His ministers, except Casimir Périer, and, perhaps, Thiers, seem to her of small stature in comparison. Of the young Duke of Orleans she thought favorably, although to her mind he made too many concessions to democratic ideas. She was so much of an aristocrat that even the English reform measures seemed a reckless step in the direction of revolution and she felt that England was standing where France had been in 1789.

The choice passages of the *Chronique* give impressions of Brougham,